

Archie
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ANNIVERSARY

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SEGA®

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

SONIC™

THE HERGEHOG

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



Tracy
Vandelay!
-Jim
AMASH '06!
JENSEN!

I AM

I WILL ASK YOU ONE LAST TIME, DOCTOR. WHERE IS PROFESSOR GERALD'S DIARY?

GRAND-FATHER'S DIARY IS *MINE*, JUST LIKE YOU, SHADOW! I **COMMAND** YOU TO RELEASE ME!

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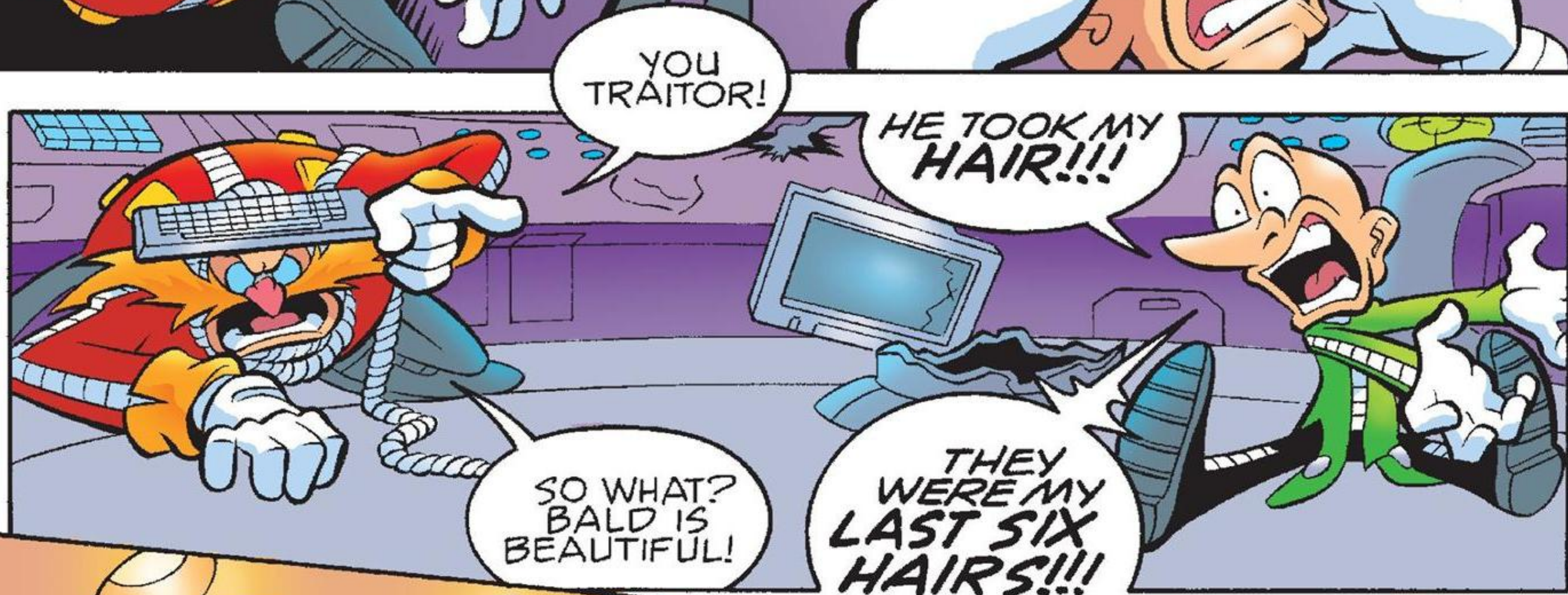
SNIVELY,
WHERE
IS THE
DIARY?

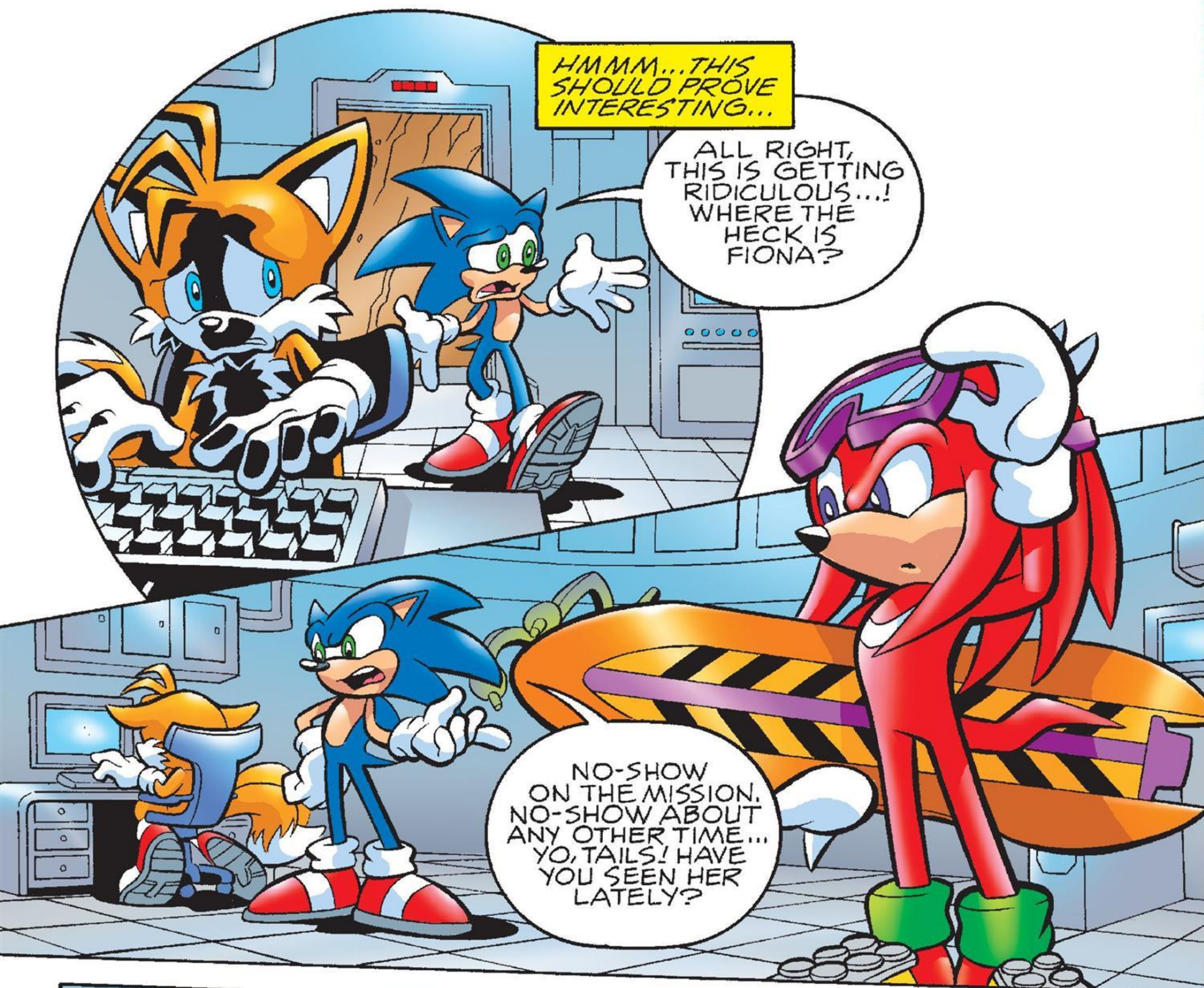
ANY-
THING BUT
THE HAIR,
I BEG OF
YOU...!

THE
DIARY.

UNCLE
ROBOTNIK'S
PRIVATE
STUDY! I
SWEAR!

Special thanks to ROBERT LEFFLER
and DYNA LOPEZ at SEGA Licensing

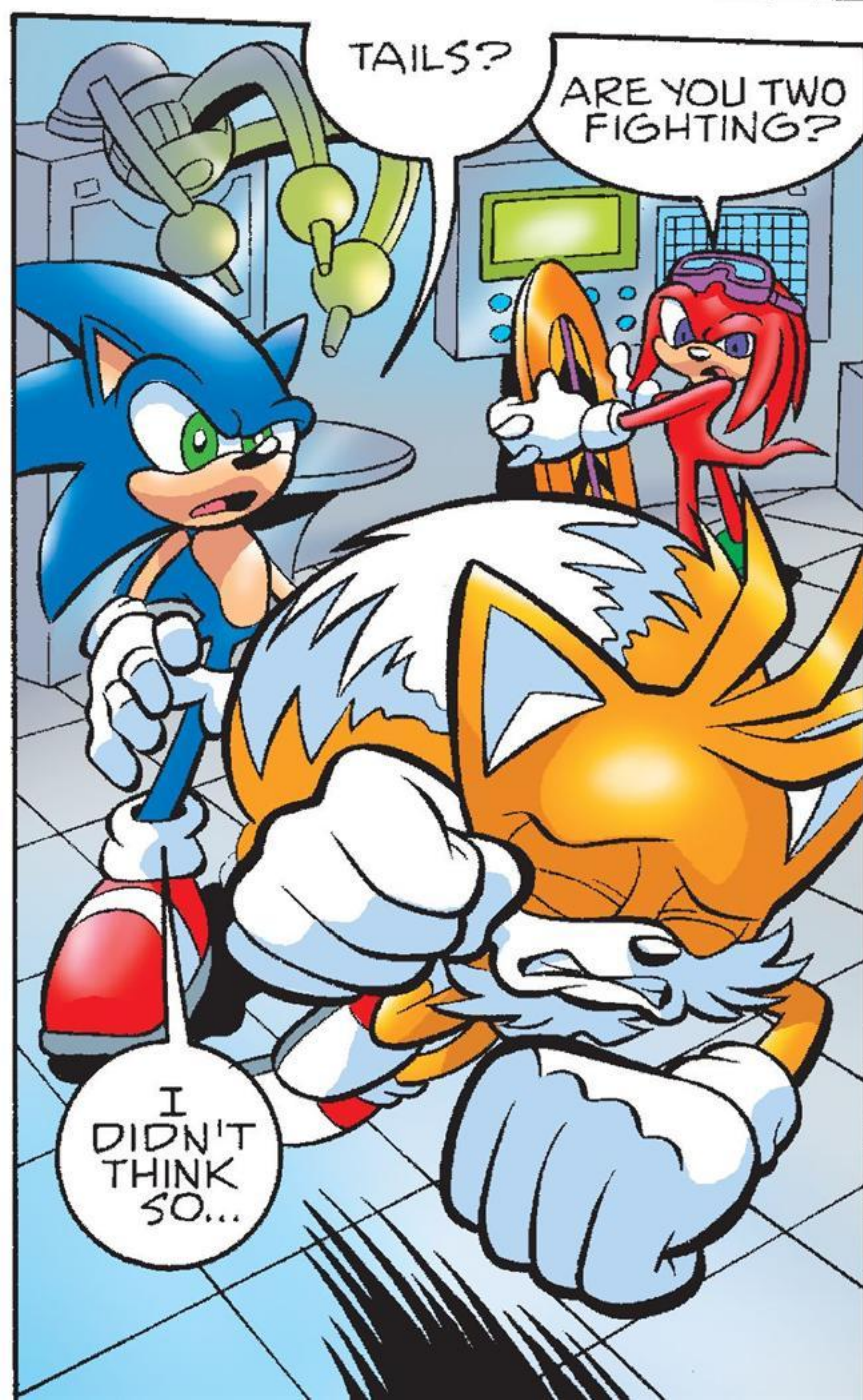




HMMM...THIS SHOULD PROVE INTERESTING...

ALL RIGHT, THIS IS GETTING RIDICULOUS...! WHERE THE HECK IS FIONA?

NO-SHOW ON THE MISSION. NO-SHOW ABOUT ANY OTHER TIME... YO, TAILS! HAVE YOU SEEN HER LATELY?



TAILS?

ARE YOU TWO FIGHTING?

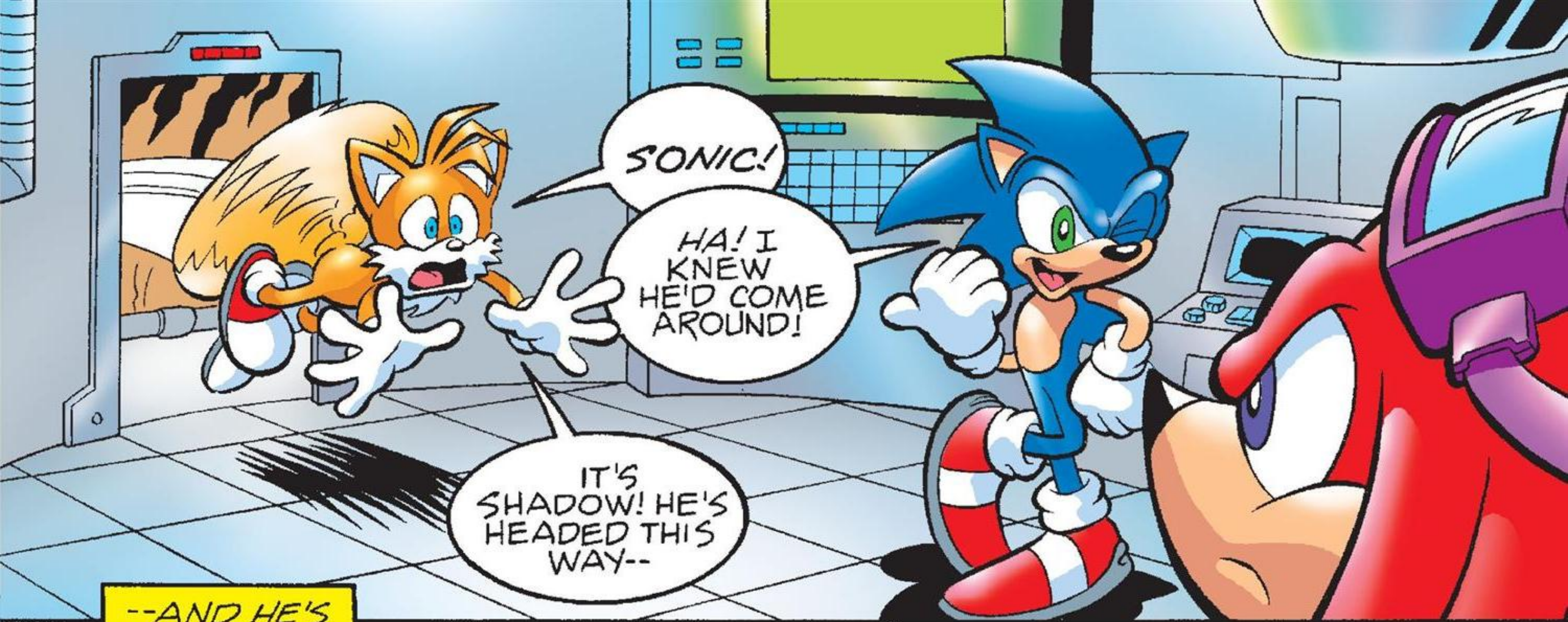
I DIDN'T THINK SO...

I KNOW TAILS HAD A THING FOR FIONA, BUT I THOUGHT WE'D DEALT WITH THAT. IF SHE KEEPS THIS UP, THOUGH, HE CAN HAVE HER.

IS FIONA STILL DISAPPEARING ON YOU?

YEAH. YEAH.

AND I'M REALLY BEGINNING TO WONDER IF...



SONIC!

HA! I
KNEW
HE'D COME
AROUND!

IT'S
SHADOW! HE'S
HEADED THIS
WAY--

--AND HE'S
UNDER
ATTACK!



NO!

WE'VE GOT
TO STOP
MEETING
LIKE THIS.

YOU
COULDN'T
SHOW
UP TEN
SECONDS
EARLIER!

WHY,
YOU'RE
WELCOME,
SHADOW.
I'M GLAD
WE COULD
HELP YOUR
PROFUSE
GRATITUDE IS
TOUCHING.



YOU'RE
RIGHT. I
APOLOGIZE.

...YOU
DO?

YOU ARE THE
ONLY ONE I CAN
TURN TO, BLUE
HEDGEHOG. THIS
IS THE DIARY OF
MY CREATOR
**PROFESSOR
GERALD
ROBOTNIK.**



THIS DISK
CONTAINS ALL
THE ANSWERS.
WHO I AM.
WHAT I'M
MEANT
TO BE.



PLEASE,
SONIC.
I NEED TO
KNOW WHO
I AM.

NO
WORRIES,
FAKER. WE'VE
GOT YOU
COVERED.

A SHORT
TIME LATER...



I DON'T
KNOW HOW MUCH
WE CAN DO FOR
YOU, SHADOW. THE DATA
IS SO OLD AND IT'S SO
DAMAGED THAT A LOT
OF THE INFORMATION
IS CORRUPTED. IF WE
TRIED TO DIG INTO
WHAT'S LEFT, IT MIGHT
CORRUPT THE WHOLE
THING.

I REFUSE
TO TURN
BACK NOW.

IF I MAY--IF YOU
WERE TO PHYSICALLY
INTERFACE WITH THE
DATA, YOU MIGHT BE
ABLE TO FIND OUT
WHAT YOU NEED.

YOU
CAN DO
THAT?

IT WILL TAKE ONLY
A FEW MINUTES
OF PREPARATION.

THEN,
YES, LET
US DO
THAT.

EMPHASIS ON
"U/S," FAKER. I'M
NOT LETTING
YOU HAVE ALL
THE FUN.

DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
FREEDOM
HQ. I'LL
KEEP AN
EYE ON
THINGS
HERE.



COOL. AND
TELL FIONA I'M
LOOKING FOR HER,
IF YOU SEE HER.

LET US HOPE,
SONIC...SHADOW
...WE'RE READY.



INSIDE
GERALD'S
DIARY...

SO THIS
IS WHERE
YOU WERE
CREATED?

YES.

HOMES.

IT'S JUST
AS I FEARED.
OUR VERY
PRESENCE IS
ACCELERATING
THE DEGRADATION.
WE NEED TO BE
QUICK.

NICOLE
?!

I... YES. I'VE
BEEN INVESTIGATING
CORPOREAL LIFE AS
A SIDE-PROJECT.*

SWEET!
I LIKE THE
LOOK.

THANK
YOU. I'VE RUN
INTO SOME
DIFFICULTIES,
BUT...

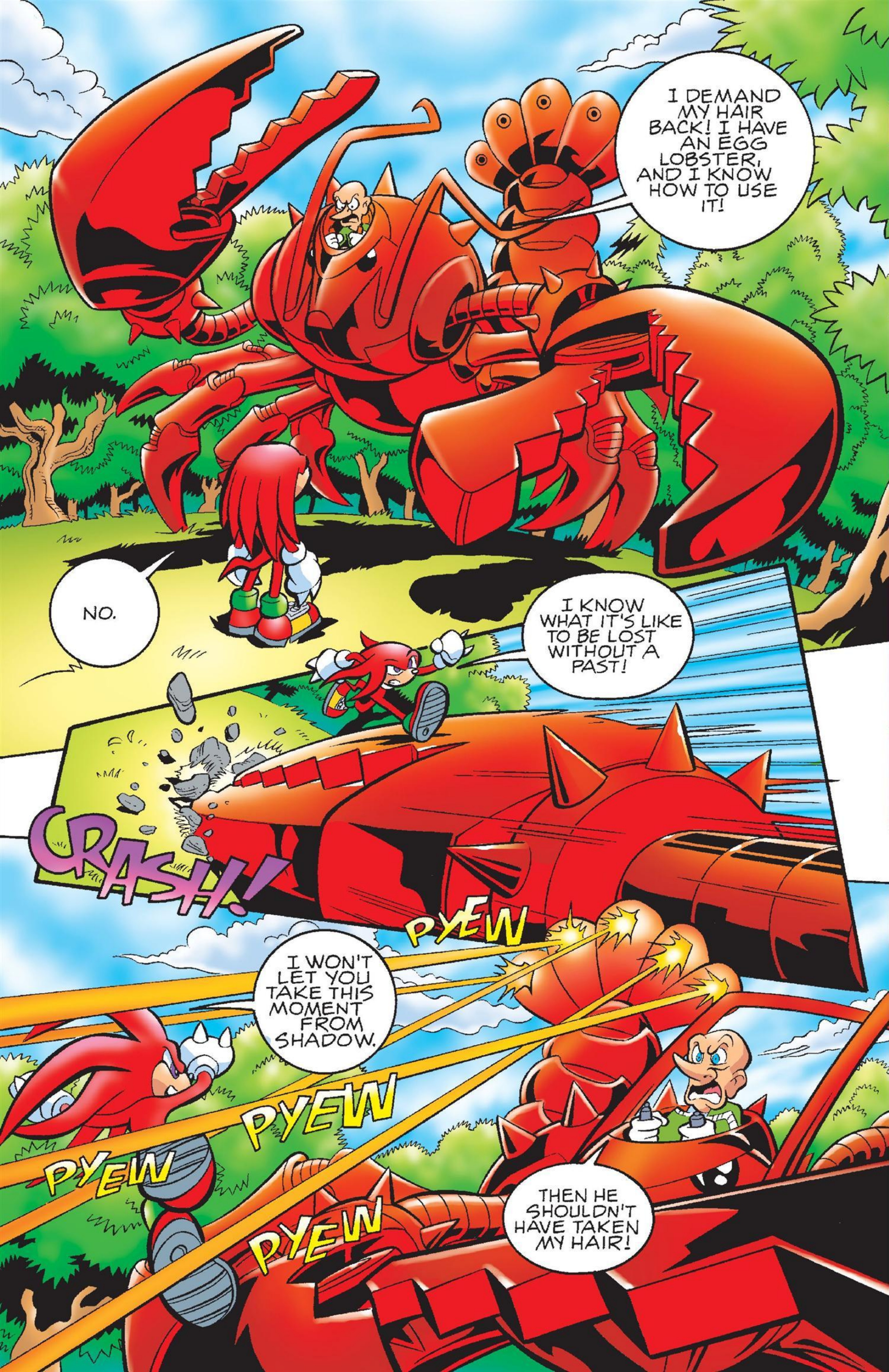
I THOUGHT
YOU SAID WE
NEEDED TO
BE QUICK.

*AS SEEN IN
STH # 151.

SHADOW!
WELCOME
BACK!

YOU!





I DEMAND
MY HAIR
BACK! I HAVE
AN EGG
LOBSTER,
AND I KNOW
HOW TO USE
IT!

NO.

I KNOW
WHAT IT'S LIKE
TO BE LOST
WITHOUT A
PAST!

CRASH!!

PYEW

I WON'T
LET YOU
TAKE THIS
MOMENT
FROM
SHADOW.

PYEW

PYEW

PYEW

THEN HE
SHOULDN'T
HAVE TAKEN
MY HAIR!

INSIDE
GERALD'S
DIARY...

MARIA... I
THOUGHT I'D
LOST YOU
FOREVER.

DON'T BE
SILLY, SHADOW.
AS LONG AS YOU
HOLD ME IN YOUR
HEART AND THOUGHTS,
WE'LL NEVER BE
APART!

WHO
ARE YOUR
FRIENDS?

FRIENDS
...?

YEAH, HI,
WE'RE STILL
HERE, WE'RE
HERE TO GET
SOME ANSWERS,
REMEMBER
?

OF...OF
COURSE...

MARIA, I
HAVE BEEN IN
CAPTIVITY FOR
THE PAST FIFTY
YEARS. I'VE FOR-
GOTTEN MY
PURPOSE... WHO
I AM... PLEASE,
TELL ME...

!GASP! FIFTY
YEARS? WE NEED
TO SPEAK TO
GRANDFATHER
RIGHT AWAY!

WE MAY HAVE TO
CUT THIS SHORT.
THE DATA IS FRAG-
MENTING FAST...

I'M NOT
LEAVING
UNTIL I
KNOW EVERY-
THING.

HELLO, SON.
FIFTY YEARS IS
A LONG TIME
TO WANDER IN
THE DARK.

THEN KNOW
EVERYTHING,
YOU SHALL...

YEAH, CAN WE GET THE ABRIDGED VERSION, PROFESSOR? WE'RE SHORT ON TIME HERE.

OF COURSE. IN SHORT, SHADOW, YOU ARE THE ULTIMATE PROTECTOR OF LIFE ON MOBIUS.

I AM?

INITIALLY, YOUR BODY WAS TO BE THE SOURCE FOR A CURE. MARIA DEVELOPED THE RARE **NEURO-IMMUNO-DEFICIENCY SYNDROME**. THERE IS NO CURE, AND I HOPED TO MAKE ONE IN YOU.

BUT THERE WERE BARRIERS I COULD NOT BREAK IN MY RESEARCH. DESPERATE, I SOUGHT THE AID OF **BLACK DOOM**, A MONSTROUS ALIEN WHO WANTED YOU TO BE HIS GREATEST WEAPON. HE HELPED ME CREATE YOU ... THE ULTIMATE LIFEFORM ... AND GIVE YOU HIS RARE SKILLS IN CHAOS CONTROL. LITTLE DID BLACK DOOM KNOW THAT I WOULD LATER CHANGE YOU TO BE A CHAMPION FOR MOBIUS AGAINST HIM AND HIS **BLACK ARMS**. THE BLACK ARMS WILL RETURN TO MOBIUS IN **FIFTY YEARS**.

FIFTY YEARS? THEN THEY'RE LATE, OR...

NO WORRIES, NICOLE, THEY'RE BUSY FIGHTING WITH THE XORDA.* THEY WON'T BE COMING HERE ANY TIME SOON.

SO... WHAT AM I, THEN? A CURE? A WEAPON?

YOU ARE A SAVIOR, SHADOW. I'M SO SORRY SO MUCH HAS TO BE PUT ON YOUR SHOULDERS, BUT YOU ARE WELL PREPARED. YOU WERE CREATED WITH MY LOVE FOR THE PEOPLE OF MOBIUS SO THAT YOU MAY PROTECT THEM.

*EQUALLY DANGEROUS ALIEN MARAUDERS, AS WE DISCOVERED LAST ISSUE!

WHOA!
NO MORE
FLOOR!

THE DIGITAL MATRIX IS
COLLAPSING! WE HAVE
TO GET OUT!

I'LL MAKE
US A WAY
OUT. YOU GET
SHADOW!

WAY
AHEAD
OF YOU,
NICOLE!

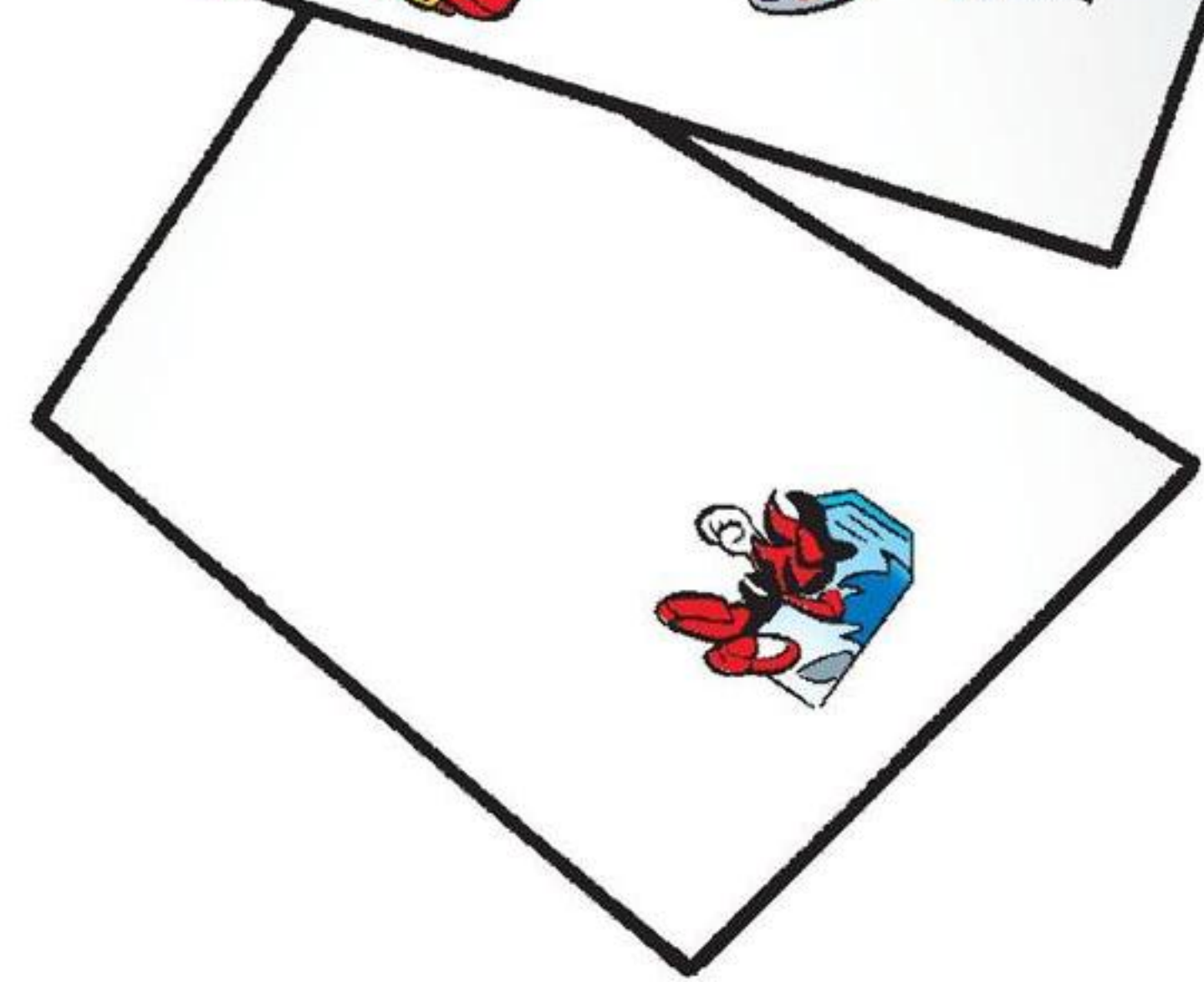
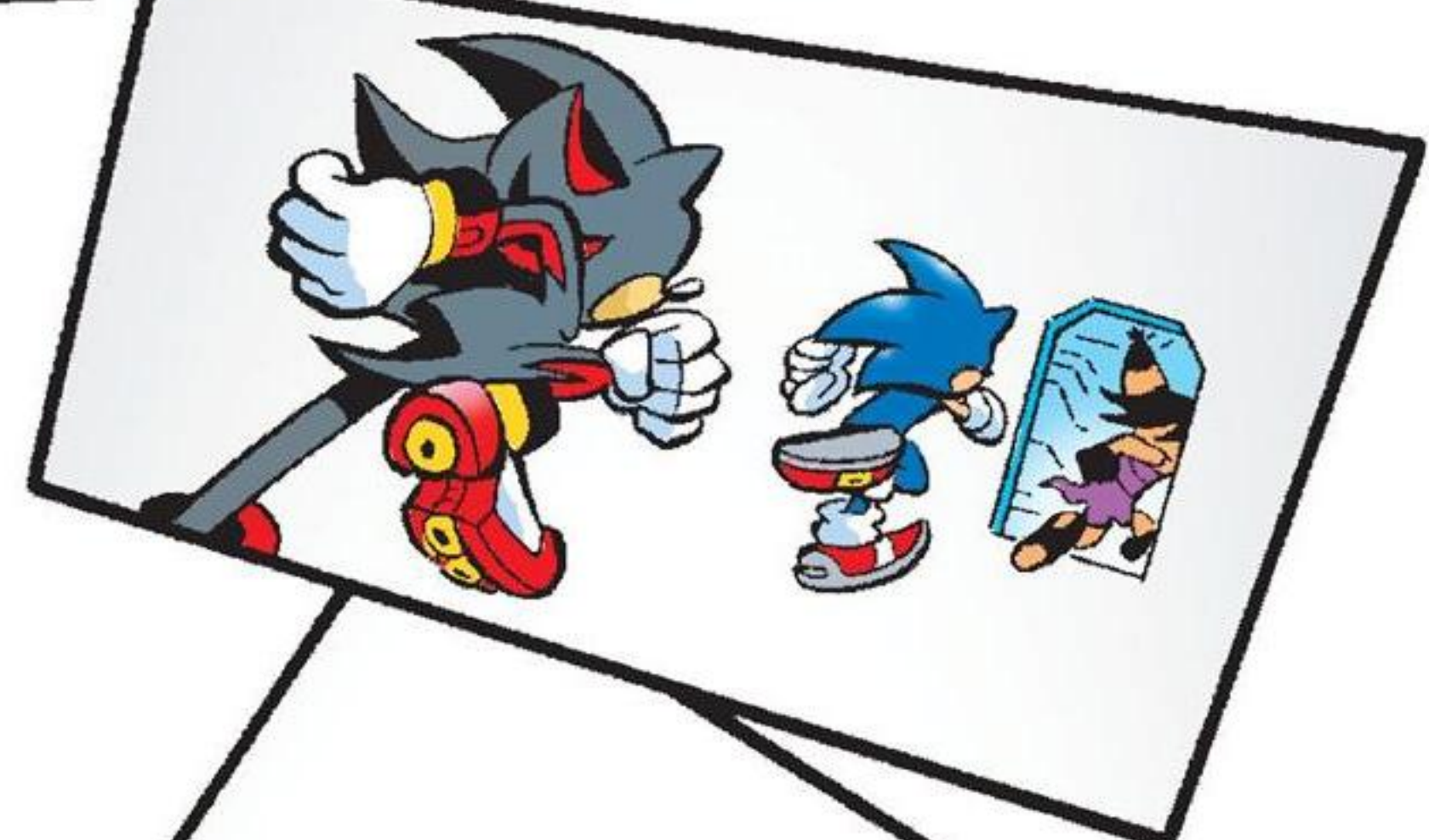
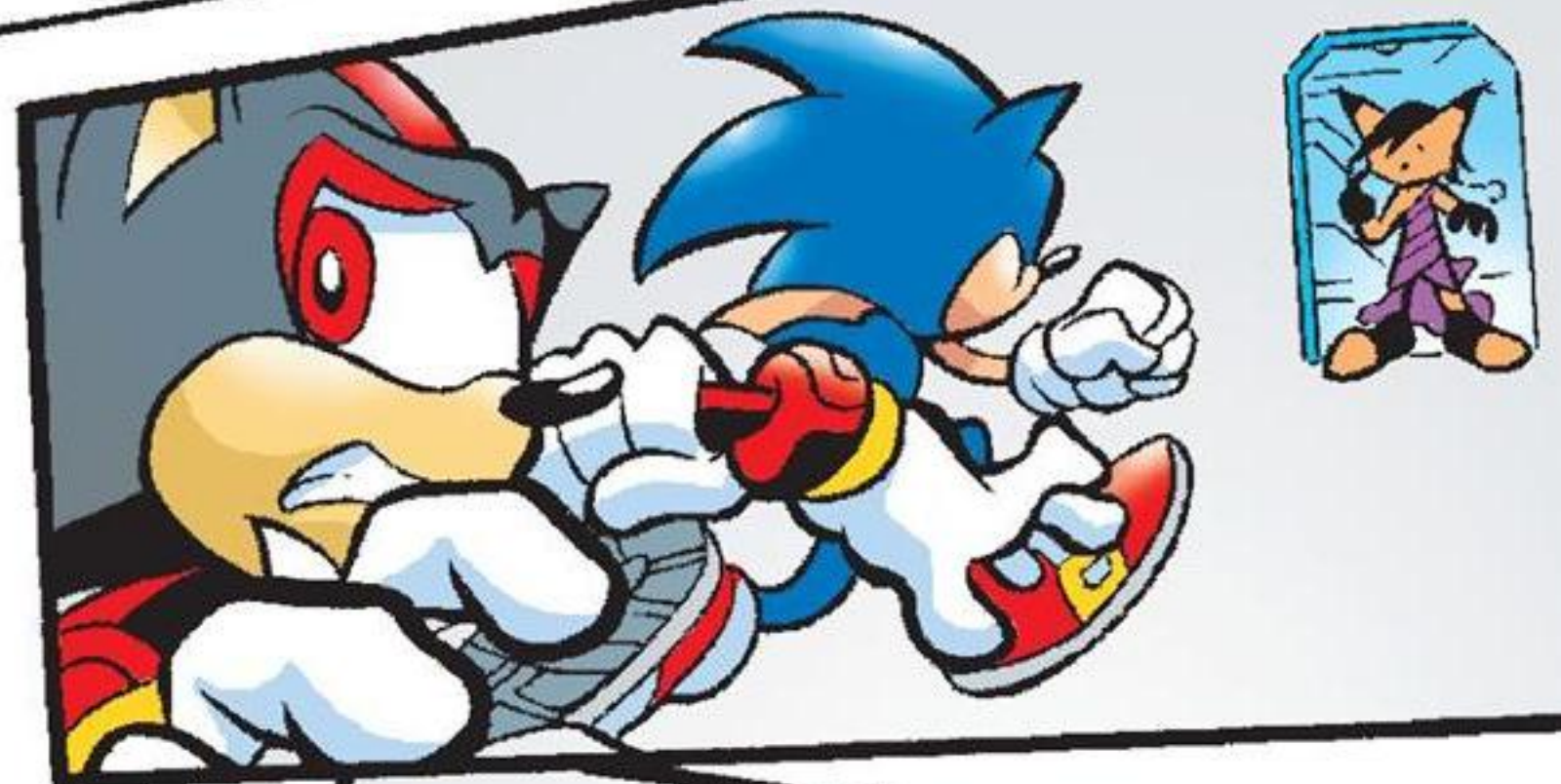
SHADOW
...TIME TO
JUICE!

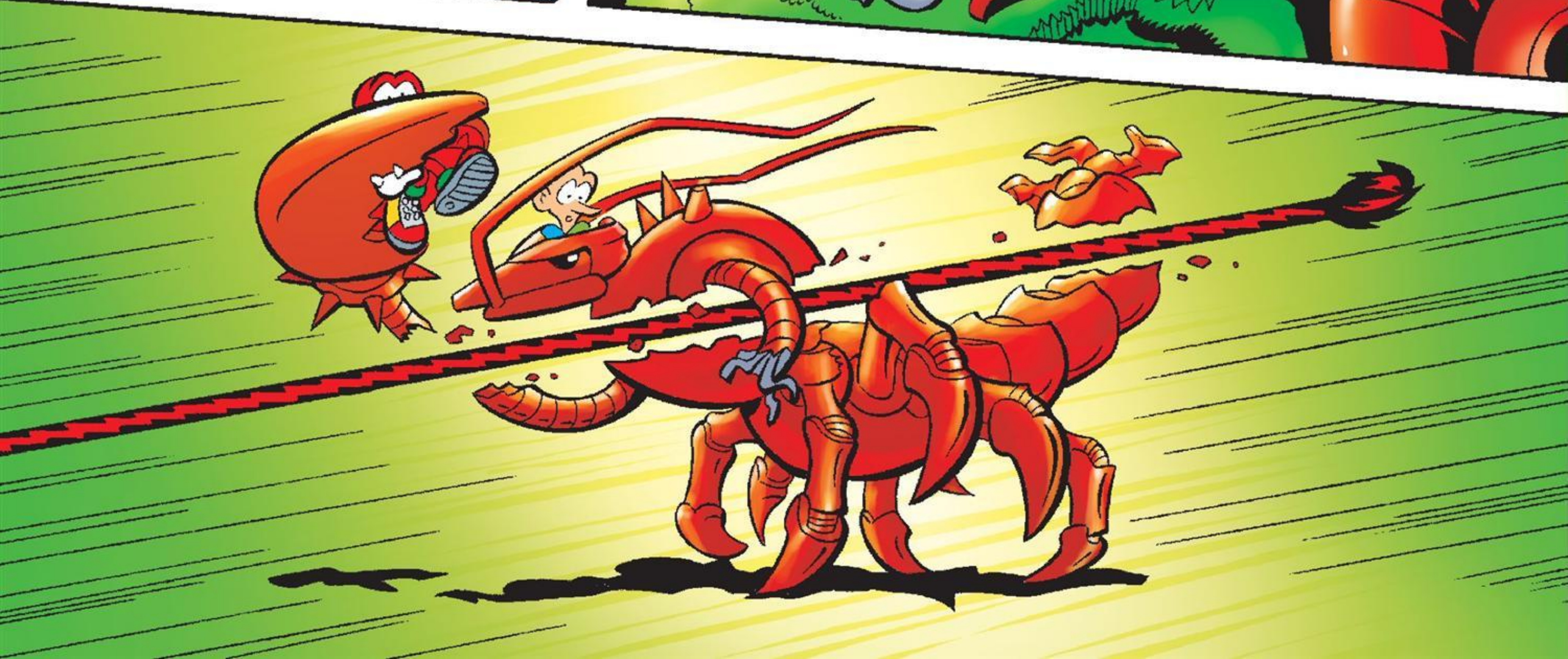
NO! I
STILL HAVE
QUESTIONS!
I **CAN'T**
LEAVE
MARIA
AGAIN!

SHADOW...

...IF I
HOLD YOU
IN MY HEART...!
GOOD-BYE,
MARIA.

YOU
HAVE TO GO AND
PROTECT EVERY-
ONE NOW. AND
YOU'LL ALWAYS
HAVE ME...







I AM
SHADOW
THE HEDGEHOG.
I AM THE UNION
OF IDEALS DARK
AND BENIGN
BUT ULTIMATELY
BUILT IN
THE NAME OF
LOVE.



I AM
THE ULTIMATE
LIFEFORM.

I AM
THE PROTECTOR
OF MOBIUS.

RUN HOME
TO YOUR
MASTER AND
TELL HIM.

THIS
IS WHO
I AM.



HMPH.
SHOW-OFF.

DON'T
WORRY. I'M
SURE HE'LL
BE AS MOODY
AND BROODING
AS EVER.

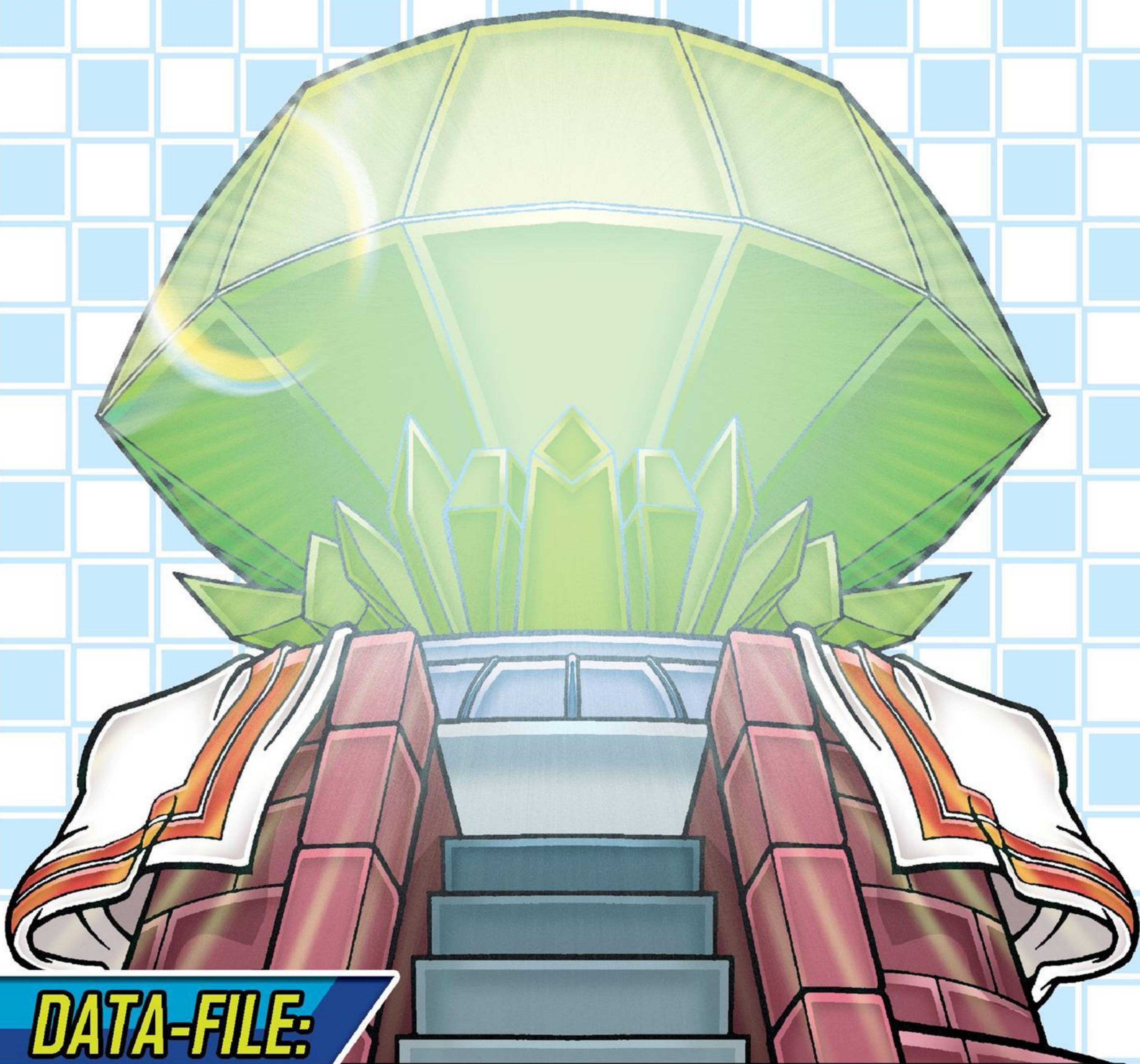
WELL...
AFTER
ALL THAT,
WHAT DO
WE DO
?



WE FIND OUT
WHY MY GIRLFRIEND
IS VANISHING
LATELY. IT'S TIME
I GOT SOME
ANSWERS!

ONE MYSTERY IS SOLVED WHILE ANOTHER REMAINS!
COME BACK FOR MORE, WHEN WE SEE WHAT IS THE
"TRUTH OF THE HEART!"

MASTER EMERALD



DATA-FILE:

First game appearance: Sonic & Knuckles (Sega Genesis)

First comic appearance: Sonic the Hedgehog #56

The story of the Master Emerald dates back roughly 600 years. It began on Angel Island, which was then held aloft by twelve Chaos Emeralds. The echidna scientist Dimitri tried to drain them of their power to return Angel Island to its mainland home. Instead, the power of eleven of those Chaos Emeralds became infused within him. He became the tyrant Enerjak and was sealed away for generations.

Relatively recently, the villain Mammoth Mogul sought to gain ultimate control of Mobius. Mogul possessed one Chaos Emerald of his own and manipulated events so that he could steal the power of the eleven from Enerjak. Now with the power of twelve Chaos Emeralds within him, Mogul made a bid for world domination. Instead, he received a beating from Super Sonic, Hyper Knuckles and Turbo Tails.

Desperate for an edge, Mogul attempted to absorb the power of the two Chaos Emeralds that remained on Angel Island. The Brotherhood of Guardians took that moment to attack. The resulting mixture of energies created the single, massive Master Emerald with Mogul's spirit trapped inside.

Shortly after this, Dr. Eggman shattered the Master Emerald to strengthen Chaos, thus freeing Mogul. Knuckles the Echidna managed to repair it by gathering all of the shards. It was later protected from the Gathering by a joint effort by Guardian Locke and Dr. Finitevus. The Master Emerald now remains hidden on Angel Island, keeping it flying high above Mobius.

POWER RINGS



CHAOS EMERALDS



DATA-FILE:

Thousands of years ago, the reign of the mobosaurs was brought to an end by the Coming of the Chaos Emeralds.

Thousands of the green gemstones showered Mobius. These mystical gems are said to have limitless magical energy and have been seen to create whole Zones on their own. They have been used by hero and villain alike to shape the course of history.

There were once hundreds of thousands of the Chaos Emeralds throughout the galaxy until the Gathering. Turbo Tails, with the aid of others, summoned all the Chaos Emeralds and transferred them to the Special Zone. There the gems fused into seven colored stones: grey, blue, cyan, purple, red, green and yellow.

Magic Rings are the natural by-products of Chaos Emeralds. These golden bands can grant the user a number of special abilities, most notably increased resilience and physical prowess. They can be found littered throughout many Zones and can be used by both man and machine alike.

They can also be created by artificial means. The process was first pioneered by an Overlander scientist named Nate Morgan. His work inspired - and was later carried on by - Sir Charles Hedgehog, the uncle of Sonic the Hedgehog. The artificial rings are no less powerful than their natural counterparts and seem to interact with the Chaos Emeralds in the same, if mysterious, way.

Finally, there are an elite few on Mobius who can channel the powers of these items to transform into Super-forms; Sonic being chief among them.

With fifty Magic Rings and seven Chaos Emeralds, these few gain powers beyond those of mortal Mobians.

CHAO



DATA-FILE:

First game appearance: Sonic Adventure (Sega Dreamcast)

First comic appearance: Sonic the Hedgehog #82

Chao are mysterious but lovable creatures that live almost exclusively in Chao Gardens. Spawned by Chaos, chao hatch from eggs. They go into a cocoon before entering adolescence and then again at the end of adulthood, emerging as an egg once more. In special cases, after a number of "resurrections," a chao may evolve into a form that makes it immortal!

Chao are very special in that they can borrow the traits of animals they come in contact with. Their shape and color changes as they mature into one of five specific types: Running, Flying, Swimming, Power and Normal. However, a well-balanced chao can look like it did on the day it hatched.

Whoever raises the chao also affects its development. If a virtuous person raises a chao, it will probably mature into a kind of Hero Chao. If someone who isn't so virtuous raises the chao, however, it can turn into a kind of Dark Chao. Whether Dark, Hero or normal, all chao are cute and loving!

Finally, while chao cannot talk, they have a very distinct form of communication: their emotion-dot. The emotion-dot, which floats above a chao's head, will change shape depending on what it thinks or feels.

FLICKY BIRDS



DATA-FILE:

First game appearance: Sonic 3-D Blast (Sega Genesis, Sega Saturn)

First comic appearance: Sonic Blast #1

Flickies are a kind of colorful bird that live almost exclusively on the atoll called Flicky Island. Peaceful and friendly, Flicky birds feed on the strange bejeweled plants of their home. When they gather into flocks, it is said they can create Warp Rings to other Zones!

Sonic the Hedgehog first encountered the Flicky birds when the original Dr. Robotnik invaded their island. Dr. Robotnik was searching for the island's Chaos Emerald and was roboticizing the defenseless Flickies on his way. Sonic, Tails and Rotor rushed to the rescue, saving the Flickies and closing the gateway to the Flicky Zone.

There have been Flicky sightings in Knothole City recently, however. Have the Flickies returned or is this an entirely new flock? Only time will tell!

KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA LEFT ANGEL ISLAND AND THE MASTER EMERALD TO BETTER PROTECT MOBIUS. HIS FATHER LOCKE HAS TAKEN OVER THE GUARDIAN DUTIES--BUT WITH DECREASING INTENSITY. LOCKE IS DESPERATELY SEARCHING FOR HIS FOREFATHERS ... THE BROTHERHOOD OF GUARDIANS... AND NOW WILL DO ANYTHING TO FIND THEM...

ENFORCERS

ECHIDNA-
OPOLIS,
ANGEL
ISLAND...

THERE'S
NOTHING
LEFT TO TAKE!
LEAVE US IN
PEACE!

HOW
ABOUT I
LET YOU
REST IN
PEACE,
ECHIDNA
?!

THOP!

DON'T
WORRY, FOLKS.
THE DESTRUCTIX
ARE HERE
NOW.

WRITER: IAN FLYNN
PENCILLER: TRACY YARDLEY!
INKER: TERRY AUSTIN
LETTERER: JOHN WORKMAN
COLORIST: JASON JENSEN

I KNOW
THESE
VILLAINS...

BUT WHY ARE
THEY RESCUING
ECHIDNAOPOLIS?*

FWASH!!

BECAUSE
I TOLD
THEM TO.
SALUTATIONS,
GUARDIAN
LOCKE.

*VILLAGE
OF THE LAST
FEW FREE
ECHIDNAS.

?! YOU
AGAIN?

DOCTOR FINITEVUS,
FORMER TECHNOMAGE
OF THE DARK LEGION, AT
YOUR SERVICE AGAIN.
THESE ARE THE DESTRUCTIX...
FORMER ROGUES I HAVE
GATHERED TO DO
GOOD DEEDS.

YOU EXPECT
ME TO BELIEVE
A RANKING DARK
LEGIONNAIRE AND
MAMMOTH MOGUL'S
ENFORCERS ARE NOW MY
ALLIES? MY FAMILY HAS
FOUGHT THE DARK LEGION
FOR GENERATIONS. THEIR
TECHNOPHILIA IS ALL
THAT DRIVES THEM.

YOU DIDN'T
QUESTION MY
ASSISTANCE WHEN
I HELPED YOU
SAVE THE
MASTER EMERALD.*
STILL, IF YOU WON'T
BELIEVE ONE OF
YOUR OWN
PEOPLE...

*STH #169.

...THEN PERHAPS
YOU'LL BELIEVE
ONE OF YOUR
ANCESTORS.

IT IS ALL TRUE,
LOCKE. DOCTOR
FINITEVUS SAVED
WHAT WAS LEFT
OF ME AFTER
THE DARK LEGION
SPLIT IN TWO.

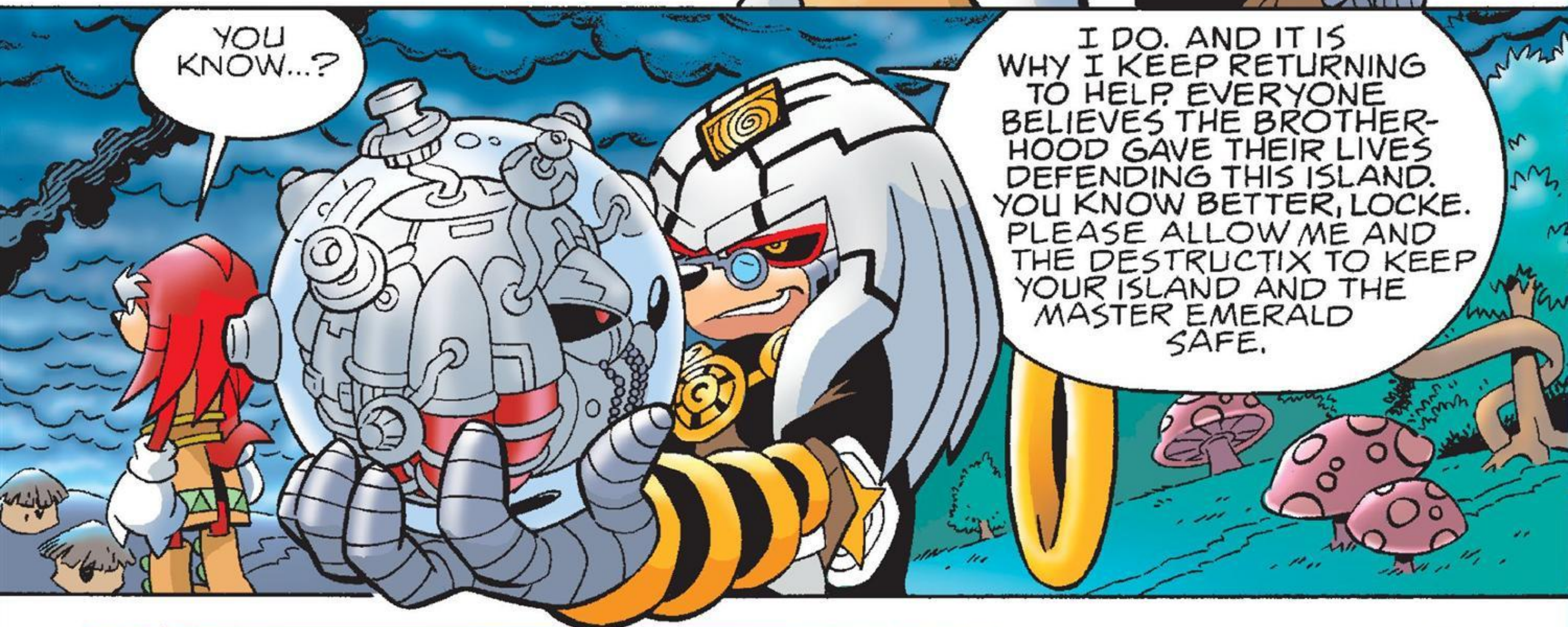
DIMITRI IS
MY ANCESTOR,
BUT HIS
DESCENDANTS
FORMED THE
DARK LEGION.
WE'VE ALREADY
BEEN OVER
THIS.

WHAT WILL
IT TAKE, LOCKE?
SADLY, I COULD
NOT FIND ANY OF
THE BROTHERHOOD
TO CONVINCE YOU.
I'M SURE YOU
CAN RELATE.

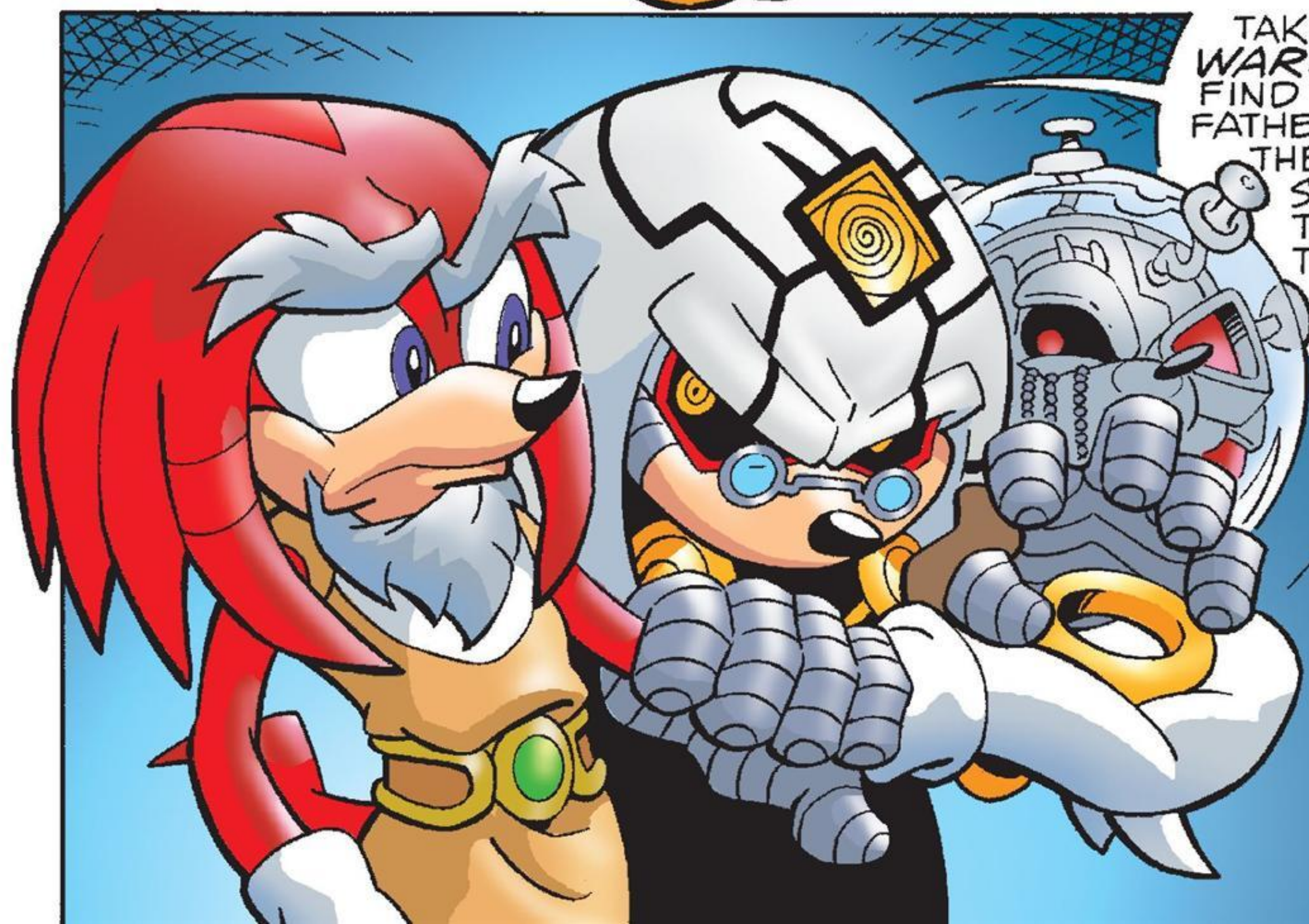


YOU
KNOW...?

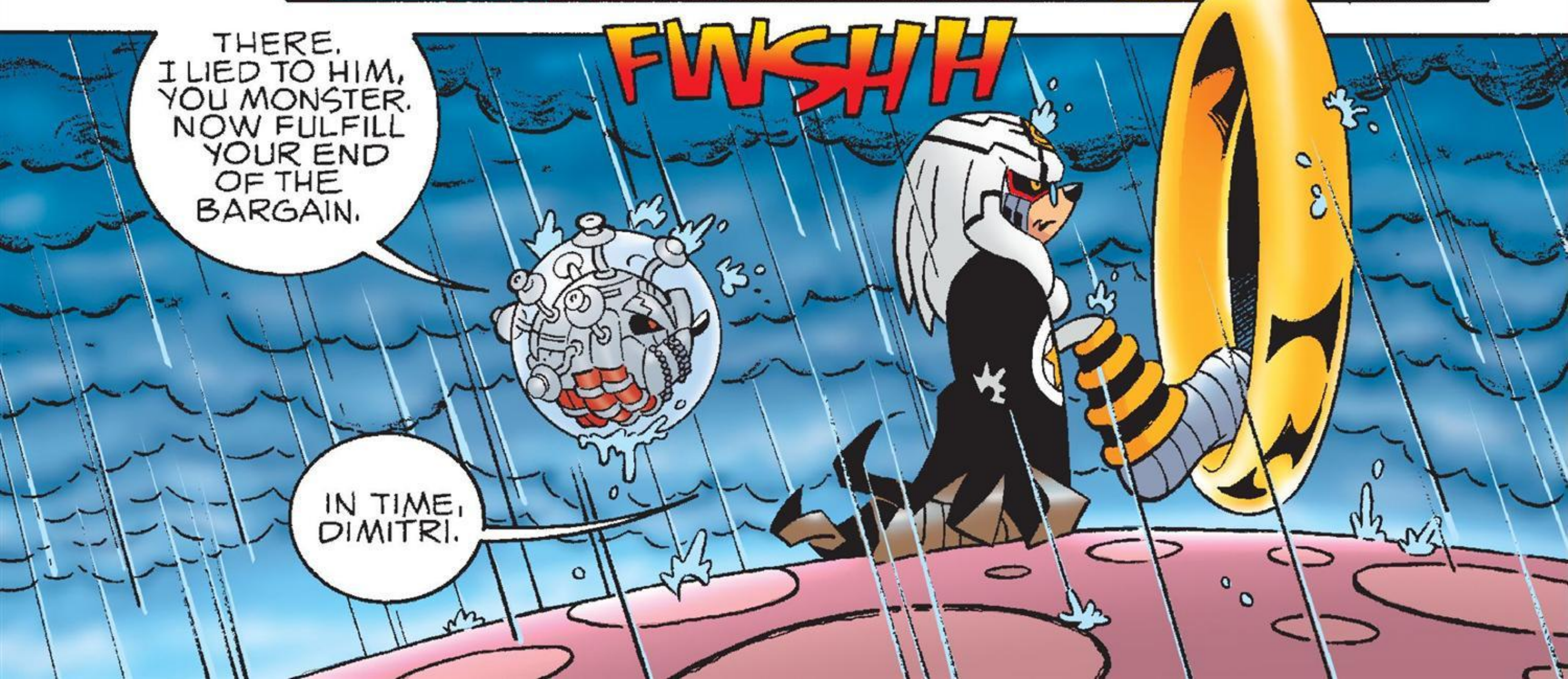
I DO. AND IT IS
WHY I KEEP RETURNING
TO HELP EVERYONE
BELIEVES THE BROTHER-
HOOD GAVE THEIR LIVES
DEFENDING THIS ISLAND.
YOU KNOW BETTER, LOCKE.
PLEASE ALLOW ME AND
THE DESTRUCTIX TO KEEP
YOUR ISLAND AND THE
MASTER EMERALD
SAFE.



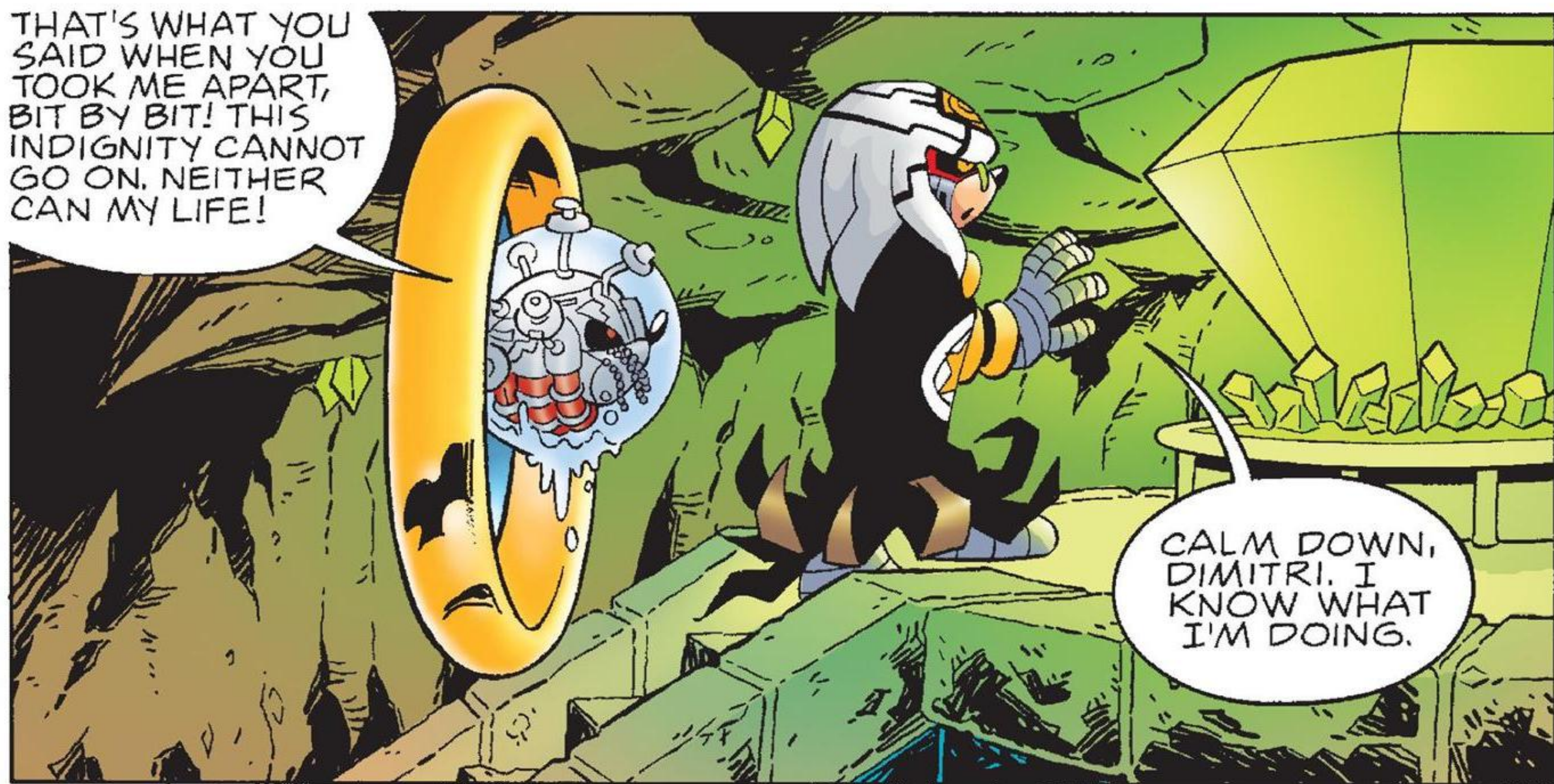
TAKE ONE OF MY
WARP RINGS AND
FIND YOUR FORE-
FATHERS. WE NEED
THEM TO BRING
STABILITY TO
THIS ISLAND.
TO OUR HOME-
LAND.







THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID WHEN YOU TOOK ME APART, BIT BY BIT! THIS INDIGNITY CANNOT GO ON. NEITHER CAN MY LIFE!



CALM DOWN, DIMITRI. I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.

THE DINGO REGIME WILL BE CRUSHED, THE LEGION WILL BE UNIFIED...



...AND THE WORLD WILL KNOW THE GLORY OF YOUR OLD IDENTITY.

THE POWER AND NAME OF *ENERJAK* WILL BE KNOWN ONCE MORE.



DOCTOR FINITEVUS is plotting the return of **KNUCKLES'** most powerful enemy! How long until the plan comes to fruition? Stay tuned!